

Message Text

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15

ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 ACDA-07 IO-13 /051 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:PMAYHEW:EY

APPROVED BY EA/K:PMAYHEW

EA/P:WMAGRUDER (SUBS)

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R 070151Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, KS

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE -- DMZ

1. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE PREPARED AUGUST 6 FOR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN.

2. QUOTE QUESTION: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE FIRING INCIDENT ALONG THE DMZ YESTERDAY?

3. ANSWER: WE REGRET THAT NORTH KOREA ONCE AGAIN CONTRIBUTED TO MILITARY TENSIONS ALONG THE DMZ BY FIRING ON A ROK DMZ POST. IT IS DOUBTLESS NO COINCIDENCE THAT THE NORTH INITIATED AN INCIDENT ALONG THE DMZ THE SAME DAY IT PUT OUT A STATEMENT POINTING OUT THE TENSIONS ON THE PENINSULA AND REJECTING THE SECRETARY'S JULY 22 PROPOSAL TO MEET TO EASE THOSE TENSIONS.

4. BACKGROUND: EARLY IN THE MORNING OF AUGUST 5 NORTH KOREA TROOPS FIRED TWO ROUNDS OF MACHINE GUN FIRE AT A SOUTH KOREAN GUARD POST ON THE DMZ. THE SOUTH KOREANS
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REPLIED AND THE FIRE FIGHT ESCALATED TO AN EXCHANGE OF

RECOILLESS RIFLE FIRE. THE ROK REPORTS NO CASUALTIES
AND NONE WERE OBSERVED ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE LINE.

THE NORTH KOREANS REJECTED A REQUEST BY THE SENIOR UNC
REPRESENTATIVE TO THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION FOR A
JOINT INVESTIGATION OF THE INCIDENT. END QUOTE

5. NO QUESTIONS WERE ASKED AT AUGUST 6 NOON BRIEFING
ON THIS SUBJECT. HABIB

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, DMZ, PRESS CONFERENCES, BORDER INCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: PMAYHEW:EY
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Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760875/aaaacniq.tel
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUN 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <23 SEP 2004 by izenbei0>
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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